The Kind Words of a Muslim

By Mansoor Ali Shah
لَا إِلٰهَ إِلَّا اللّٰهُ مُحَمَّدٌ رَسُولُ اللّٰهِ

Baba and Mansoor sit in the garden, enjoying the gentle breeze. Mansoor looks thoughtful as he plays with a small twig in his hands.

Mansoor: Baba, today at school, my friend Ahmed was upset. Someone called him a mean name, and he didn't want to play anymore. It made me feel sad too.

Baba: That is very kind of you, Mansoor. Our beloved Prophet ﷺ taught us that a true Muslim is someone who does not harm others with his tongue or hands.

Mansoor: What does that mean, Baba?

Baba: It means that a good Muslim does not say hurtful words or do anything that causes harm to others. Our words can be like flowers that bring happiness, or like thorns that cause pain. That's why we must always choose kind and gentle words.

Mansoor: Oh! So when someone teases another person, they are hurting them, just like a thorn?

Baba: Yes, my dear. Even if we don't mean to, our words can hurt. But just like we can remove a thorn from the path, we can also fix our mistakes by apologizing and speaking kindly.

Mansoor: Baba, what should I do if someone says something mean to me or my friends?

Baba: The best way is to be patient and respond with kindness. Allah loves those who control their anger and forgive others. You can remind them gently that good Muslims do not use hurtful words.

Mansoor: I will tell Ahmed this tomorrow! And I will also try to speak kindly to everyone, so I don't make anyone feel sad.

Baba: That's my boy! A true Muslim spreads peace with his words and actions. If you always remember this, you will be loved by Allah and by the people around you.

Mansoor smiles, feeling happy that he has learned something important. He picks a small flower and hands it to Baba.

Mansoor: Baba, this flower is for you—because you always teach me good things with kind words!

Baba laughs and hugs Mansoor.

Baba: And your kind words are the sweetest gift to me!